**COMMENTS ON THE UNDP DRAFT COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE (2023-2027)**

*First regular session 2023*

| **Name of the delegation/ Member State** | **Comments by Member State on the UNDP draft CPD for São Tomé and Príncipe** | **CO response** | **Action/Revision made in the draft CPD**  |
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| **European Union** | * STP is highly dependent on international aid (90% of the budget), is highly indebted (70% of GDP) and has 65% of its population living below the poverty line. For these reasons STP is vulnerable to external shocks, including climate change.
* The UNDP programme articulated along 4 dimensions (social inclusion / Climate – natural resources / green-blue growth / institutional governance) captures well these challenges.
 | Thanks for your comment. We are pleased to see your recognition that the UNDP STP CPD captures well these challenges  | No changes of the CPD required |
| * As the NDICI envelope for STP is limited (due to the size of the country) and as governance (institutional development) is costly and not necessarily population size sensitive, we commend the UNDP programme which echoes well the NDICI programme 2021-2024 and will allow constructive synergies, helping notably our Wat/San sector budget support.
 | Thanks for your comment. UNDP STP CO looks forward to a very fruitful collaboration and synergies with the EU program | No changes of the CPD required |
| The Delegation call for close cooperation in 2 specific areas of envisaged UNDP intervention:* National Social Protection System targeting poor and vulnerable groups: this will complement our objective to enhance economic autonomy while taking care of vulnerable who face difficulties to develop their autonomy and need support from the society
* As Eco-tourism, agribusiness, sustainable fisheries, digital services, and waste management is a key focus for UNDP intervention in the area of “Green and blue growth” and as these sectors are also of interest for us, the combination of our effort may lead to a better coverage.
 | Thanks for your comment. The EU is already identified as a key partner on the blue and green economy (output 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3). But we took note of the EU interest in also working more closely on social protection and accordingly the EU has been added as partner also in the CPD output 1.2 | The name of the “European Union” has been added as partner in the social protection output 1.2 of the CPD. The European Union already appears as partner in the green and blue economy: output 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 |